

DALSTON ROOF PARK

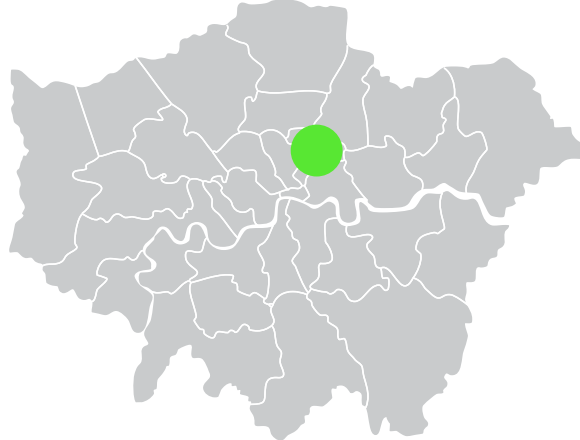
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WHAT?

Dalston Roof Park is a public open space above a Victorian warehouse building in the heart of Dalston, London. It is a green space to relax, enjoy stunning views across the city and learn about cultivation of plants. A place of cultural exchange, a venue for performances, screenings and pop-up events. In short: A new 'breed' of public space that promotes well-being wholeheartedly and attempts to 'seed' the idea of a green space revolution, that will cultivate new green spaces in the city through bottom-up processes.



Location: Borough of Hackney



South elevation of heterogeneous facades of Print House and Colour Works.



"Before" view from rooftop of Print House looking towards East, with photovoltaic system (centre)

HOW?

The project is still evolving and has been implemented in phases, that helped to include feed-back and consultation of everybody involved. Contributions in form of free grow-bags (Vital Earth), recycled materials (palettes) and a small grant (Capital Growth) for the seedlings were the essential ingredients to kick-start the initial process. The entrepreneurial aim is to generate income, that is invested back for further upgrades and an extended programme. The plants are looked after by the 'garden collective', made up by building tenants and individuals of the wider community and is organised through a blog.



Volunteers of the 'human chain event' that helped to carry the grow-bags four stories up to roof level.



The planting schedule employs a concepts such as 'companion planting', to enable various narratives for educational use



'Kayak' grow-bags are placed directly on recycled palettes to sustain the existing drainage from the roof



The garden layout provides for various forms of 'inhabitation' connecting the natural (plants) and artificial (astroturf) into a joint public domain

WHO?

Dalston Roof Park was jointly delivered by a multi-disciplinary team working together including Bootstrap company manager Sam Aldenton, visual artist Rob Pyecroft-Rainbow, Carsten Jungfer of zectorarchitects and many other volunteers giving a helping hand. Dialogue and a strong sense of common interest helped the project to grow from idea to current success as a new model for public space for well-being, recreation and the community.



The inflatable canopy provides temporary shelter



Pop-up vintage sale



Open-air screening & film-festival



Live music and plants under the inflatable canopy



Enjoying a summer evening with sunset behind Colour Works

